

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Damond Vadnais (Reg. No. 52,310) on January 24, 2012.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claim 4.

2. (Currently Amended) A probe set comprising multiple probes that are isolated and that can be used for identification of an HLA-A allele contained in a specimen, wherein the multiple probes comprise [the probes of] SEQ ID NOs. 251 to 454 or [the probes of] SEQ ID NOs. 455 to 631 so that the alleles of SEQ ID NOs. 1 to 250 can be identified by conducting a set of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) [operations] using different probes selected from the probe set [based on the allele-probe correspondence list shown in Tables 3-1 to 3-9 or in Tables 4-1 to 4-9].

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 2 is allowable in light of applicant's amendment filed on December 5, 2011 and the examiner's amendment. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 112, first and second paragraphs have been withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment filed on December 5, 2011 and the examiner's amendment. No prior art teaches or suggests multiple probes comprising SEQ ID Nos: 251-454 or SEQ ID Nos: 455-631. No prior art

Art Unit: 1634

either alone or in combination with the other art in the record teaches/teach or reasonably suggests/suggest a probe set which comprises all limitations recited in claim 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

4. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993)(See 37 CAR § 1.6(d)). The CM Fax Center number is (571)273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Lu, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571)272-0746. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Nguyen, can be reached on (571)272-0731.

Art Unit: 1634

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Frank W Lu /
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1634
January 25, 2012